



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael S. Steele
Lt. Governor

Mary Ann Saar
Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Maj. Priscilla Doggett (410) 585-3320
Mark Vernarelli (410) 339-5065

Maryland Correctional Institution-Jessup Celebrates 25th Anniversary

TOWSON, MD (May 5, 2006)---Maryland Correctional Institution-Jessup marks 25 years of operation on May 11. A number of administrators from the Division of Correction and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services will attend a small celebration.

MCI-J opened in 1981 as a major conduit to transfer male inmates from medium- to minimum-security and pre-release levels. It was originally designed to be an annex for the nearby House of Correction. At the time of its opening, MCI-J boasted a state-of-the-art dietary department and was home to the Division of Correction's Mental Health Unit for the Jessup region.

MCI-J's opening also helped to relieve overcrowding in the state prison system, particularly in the Jessup region, where the Division of Correction and DPSCS operate more than a half-dozen prisons and pre-release facilities.

In recent years, MCI-J has seen a number of substantial physical and program enhancements. Among the structural changes are a modern visitor center, improved parking areas, and upgraded perimeter fencing.

MCI-J currently houses just over 1,000 male inmates. It is a medium security institution. Approximately half of the inmates are parole violators.

The institution is led by Warden John Rowley, Assistant Warden Robert Koppel, and Security Chief John Wolfe.

###

Public Trust, Public Service, Public Safety